Appl. No. 09/632,861
Amdt. dated August 7, 2003
Reply to Office action of April 22, 2003

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IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing access to primary media content in digital form, comprising:

a server network comprising a download management server, a customer database storing user information, and a primary content database storing primary media content;

a client console connectable for establishing a communications link through a bi-directional communications network to said download management server, the client console storing user specific information;

a detachable storage media installable in said client console; said detachable storage media having a data structure thereon comprising at least one of a user identifier and a media identifier, wherein the media identifier is combined with the user specific information to define a user identifier, the server network is configured to transmit to the client console a plurality of media content items upon request by a user of the client console, and wherein a content provider providing data through the primary content database charges the user only for items used by the user, and wherein a user identifier is uploaded to said download management server to enable access to specified content in said primary media content database, said specified content and said user information is downloaded to into said client console, the specified content being associated with billing trigger data to enable monitoring of when specific portions of the specified content is accessed for use at said client console, the monitoring being configured to generate a record of used content, the record of used

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content being communicated back to the management server to record a ~~to trigger execution~~ ~~of specified~~ revenue bearing event ~~events~~ in the customer database.

Claim 2.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said user identifier comprises an alphanumeric media ID identifying said detachable storage media, said alphanumeric media ID defining a level of access available when accessing the primary media content database.

Claim 3.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 2, wherein said specified content comprises a portion of an overall set of primary contents stored in said contents database, and wherein said media ID serves to limit access to ~~said~~ particular ones of the overall set of primary contents of the specified content ~~only~~.

Claim 4.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said specified content is associated with ~~said data structure comprises~~ an authentication code for authenticating access to the download management server.

Claim 5.   (Original) The system according to claim 4, wherein said specified content comprises a portion of an overall set of primary contents stored in said contents database, and wherein said authentication code authenticates access to the download management server which is responsible for providing access to said specified content.

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Claim 6.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein each portion of the specified content is associated with respective billing trigger data, the billing trigger data tracks usage to generate the media items comprise a plurality of trigger data items logically associated, respectively, with each of said primary media content items, and wherein the trigger data items are used to compile and store a usage history of the primary media content items in the customer database.

Claim 7.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein said data structure further comprises a data indicator indicating that said detachable storage media is operable through connection to said bi-directional communications network, and further wherein said data indicator comprises one of includes a program for providing network access and a code which causes execution of a program stored in said media console for providing network access.

Claim 8.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said client console further comprises a local fixed storage device disposed internally or externally of said client console, wherein said requested primary media specified content is downloaded only to said fixed storage device.

Claim 9.   (Currently amended) A method for delivery of primary media content in digital form through a bi-directional communications network, together with auxiliary media content stored on a detachable storage media, comprising the steps of:

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establishing a communications link between a client console and a download

management server through said bi-directional communications network, said client console

having ~~said~~ a detachable storage media detachably installed therein;

transmitting user identifier ~~data~~ including a media ID of the detachable storage

media and user information ~~contained on said local storage media and~~ along with a request

for specified content of the primary media content to said download management server, in

order to retrieve said specified ~~primary media~~ content from a contents database;

downloading ~~into~~ to said client console from said download management

server said ~~primary media~~ specified content, said specified content being provided with

associated billing trigger data;

recording usage of ~~primary media~~ the specified content at the client console

using the associated billing trigger data ~~by the user~~;

transferring the recorded usage of the specified content back to the download

management server; and

charging only for portion of the specified content used at the client console ~~the user~~

~~for the primary media based on portions of the primary media actually used~~.

Claim 10.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein said

~~user identifier data comprises an alphanumeric~~ media ID identifies ~~identifying~~ said

detachable storage media ~~and said local storage media further contains an authentication code~~

~~which enables access to said download management server~~, further comprising the step of

receiving said media ID and ~~said~~ an authentication code from said client console at ~~in~~ said

download management server, wherein one of said authentication code and said media ID

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serves to limit access to <u>particular portions of</u> ~~specified content only from among~~ said

primary media content.

Claim 11.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 9, <u>wherein the</u>

<u>billing trigger data</u> ~~the media content comprises one or more data content items associated~~

~~with a respective payment trigger item, said payment trigger item operable to~~ <u>assists in</u>

<u>compiling</u> ~~compile and store~~ usage information of the <u>specified</u> ~~media~~ content in a customer

database.

Claim 12.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein said

step of downloading ~~into~~ <u>to</u> said client console from said download management server

comprises storing said ~~primary media~~ <u>specified</u> content on a local fixed storage device

disposed internally or externally of said client console.

Claims 13 - 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17.   (New) A method for obtaining media content at a client computer,

comprising:

communicating a request from the client computer to a content provider for specified

content, the request including a media ID of a detachable media and user information, the

media ID and the user information defining a user identifier;

downloading the specified content to the client computer, the specified content being

associated with billing triggering data, the billing triggering data being configured to assist in

tracking when portions of the specified content is used at the client computer; and

returning information regarding the tracked usage of the portions of the specified

content to the content provider.

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Claim 18.   (New) A method for obtaining media content at a client computer as recited in claim 17, wherein the tracked usage is associated with the user information to enable billing for the usage of the portions of the specified content.

Claim 19.   (New) A method for obtaining media content at a client computer as recited in claim 17, wherein the specified content is downloaded the client computer, but billing for the downloaded specified content is not triggered until usage of at least a portion of the specified content at the client computer.

Claim 20.   (New) Computer readable media having program instructions for enabling the obtaining of media content at a client computer, the computer readable media comprising:

program instructions for communicating a request from the client computer to a content provider for specified content, the request including a media ID of a detachable media and user information, the media ID and the user information defining a user identifier;

program instructions for triggering downloading the specified content to the client computer, the specified content being associated with billing triggering data, the billing triggering data being configured to assist in tracking when portions of the specified content is used at the client computer; and

program instructions for sending information regarding the tracked usage of the portions of the specified content to the content provider.

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Claim 21.   (New) Computer readable media having program instructions for enabling the obtaining of media content at a client computer as recited in claim 20, wherein the tracked usage is associated with the user information to enable billing for the usage of the portions of the specified content.

Claim 22.   (New) Computer readable media having program instructions for enabling the obtaining of media content at a client computer as recited in claim 20, wherein the specified content is downloaded the client computer, but billing for the downloaded specified content is not triggered until usage of at least a portion of the specified content at the client computer.

Claim 23.   (New) Computer readable media having program instructions for enabling the obtaining of media content at a client computer as recited in claim 22, wherein the computer readable media is packaged media.

Claim 24.   (New) Computer readable media having program instructions for enabling the obtaining of media content at a client computer as recited in claim 23, wherein the packaged media is a compact disc.